



National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Goddard Space Flight Center

Wallops Flight Facility, Wallops Island, Virginia

Inside Wallops

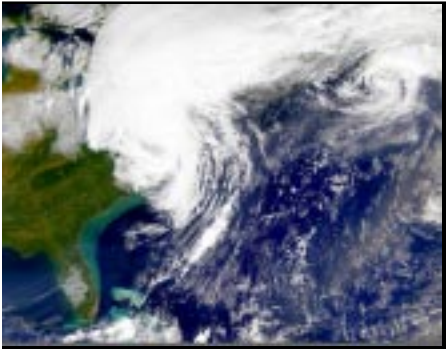
Volume XIX-99

Number 35

September 20, 1999

NASA Facilities Close Due to Hurricane Floyd

Following the closure of the NASA's Kennedy Space Center on Wednesday, Sept. 15, Wallops Flight Facility and Langley Research Center were closed Thursday, Sept. 16, due to the expected high winds and storm surge generated by Hurricane Floyd.



SeaWiFS image of Hurricane Floyd.

Wallops workers prepared for the storm by placing all NASA aircraft and mobile tracking systems in hangers and

securing launch facilities. Although two launches are scheduled from Wallops Island next week, there were no rockets on any launch pads. A team of 16 remained on-site during the storm.

Buildings D-10 and F-3 were opened as an evacuation center for Chincoteague and the local area. Approximately 75 people sought shelter at the center.

Langley employees secured facilities and sandbagged sections of the center in low-lying areas. A ride out crew of 12 remained in place during the storm.

The Wallops Weather Office reported that rainfall measured 5.4 inches and winds reached 53 mph. Other than some wash-over near the northern launch pads on Wallops Island, no damage was reported.

Wallops and Langley employees reported back to work on Friday (Sept. 17).

Preliminary Assessment: No Major Hurricane Damage at Kennedy Space Center

A preliminary review of conditions at the Kennedy Space Center (KSC) after passing of the worst of Hurricane Floyd appear to be positive. There appears to be no major damage to NASA assets.

A KSC damage assessment team reported that Hurricane Floyd had packed winds of 70 knots at Patrick Air Force Base, just to the south of KSC. During an initial assessment following the passage of Floyd they reported minimal damage.

There was some damage to the weather protection systems on the launch pads, but the pad areas were fine.

The Orbiter Processing Facility high bays had some water intrusion, but nothing affected the hardware. All flight hardware is expected to be alright in the Orbiter Processing Facility High Bay 1 (housing Orbiter Discovery), High Bay 2 (housing Orbiter Endeavor), High Bay 3 (housing Orbiter Columbia) and the Vertical Assembly Building (housing Orbiter Atlantis). Paneling came off the Vehicle Assembly Building on the East and West sides.

The Space Shuttle Main Engine Building sustained minor water leaks around doors and onto the floor level, but there was no damage to the hardware.

All of the fire trucks, with the exception of a pumper and one ambulance, were

relocated to Tyco Airport, an Executive Airport approximately 12 miles from KSC. Heavy equipment and GSA support vehicles also were relocated to Tyco.

Goddard Team:

On Sept. 15, the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee chaired by Senator Bond and whose ranking member is Maryland's Senator Barbara Mikulski unanimously voted for a NASA budget bill that is very close to the President's request.

This offers Congress an alternative to the dramatic cuts. The full Senate VA, HUD and Independent Agencies Committee meet Sept. 16 to approve and pass this bill to the full Senate. The full Senate is expected to vote soon.

I wanted to share this positive and encouraging news with you. The final act is not over, but this small victory indicates renewed and strengthened confidence in the Nation's space program, NASA and the Goddard Space Flight Center. You might be further encouraged with the press release issued by Senator Mikulski. You can see that at:

<http://internal.gsfc.nasa.gov>

I will keep you informed as actions occur.

Al Diaz

Special Message From The Administrator

Today I want to recognize the dedication, commitment and heroism of the NASA team.

Over the past few days, it has been validated once again that our greatest national treasures are our employees.

I salute the NASA employees for their preparedness and responsiveness during the threat of hurricane Floyd.

My deepest appreciation goes to the 105 volunteers at Kennedy Space Center who rode out the storm.

Your colleagues at Langley Research Center and Wallops Flight Facility are — at this hour — demonstrating similar dedication. The willingness of the NASA team to protect our nation's assets is the hallmark of what makes us great.

The President, the Vice President and the FEMA Administrator each called me to convey their concern.

The President particularly expressed his commitment to preserving and protecting the space assets of our country.

As you know, I am firmly pledged to making safety our number one value.

In view of the devastating potential of natural disasters, I have asked Joe Rothenberg and Fred Gregory, to reassess our preparedness.

We must assure the safety of our employees, protect NASA's facilities and resources and review the balance between risk versus cost.

I sincerely thank each and every one of you who regard their job at NASA with as much dedication and professionalism as shown by the diligent KSC, Langley and Wallops employees.

Dan Goldin

Use of the Internet and World Wide Web

by Warren Williams
Information Technology Security Officer
Due to recent incidents inside NASA, and particularly Wallops, regarding the misuse of government resources, all employees are reminded of their responsibilities regarding authorized use of the Internet, World Wide Web and related tools and services.

The following is excerpted from GSFC Policy as set out in Center Announcement #95-02, Authorized Use of the Internet, the World Wide Web (WWW) and Related Internet Services:

“NASA/GSFC Internet resources, including government-provided networks and gateways connecting NASA and the GSFC to the Internet, and workstations, PCs and data storage devices are provided for official government business only. Use of these resources to access [the] Internet and its resources should be related to professional duties and interests only.

“These government-furnished Internet resources are not to be used for commercial purposes such as the sale or advertisement of any item, including copyrighted material. Government resources on [the] Internet are also not to be used for personal purposes such as the playing of games, pen pal interactions [including chain letters], or other forms of entertainment, nor for the pursuit of personal interests such as hobbies, avocations, or alternative lifestyles. Not only is engaging in such activities considered misuse of government resources, and therefore inappropriate, but if performed during duty hours, it is an inappropriate use of work time and results in lost productivity. Consequently, your government Internet address may not be published in bulletin board systems (BBS), mail lists, trade journals, etc., for non-NASA related or non-government purposes nor may it be pointed back to or referred to on these types of services.”

“For civil servants, misuse of government property is a violation of the Standards of Ethical Conduct”.

For contractor employees, misuse of government property is a violation of contract obligations.

“Where a situation exists that a civil servant or contractor is determined to be acting in a manner inconsistent with the appropriate use of government-furnished Internet resources, this conduct should be reported to the individual’s supervisor, contracting officer, contracting officer’s technical representative, [local IT security official], Inspector General, or other appropriate authorities.”

“Managers are expected to review their employees’ use [of government resources] for compliance with this policy and others issued in the future.” (The complete text of this policy can be found at <http://cio.gsfc.nasa.gov/gsfci.htm>.)

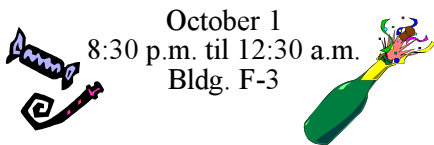
Employees also are reminded that email is forever. Do not accept email attachments that may convey subjects not directly related to your work. Ask to be removed from email lists that consistently include you for jokes, chain letters or obscene, lewd or pornographic material.

Any deviation from this policy will result in sanctions, including leave without pay or outright dismissal.

Direct questions or comments to Warren Williams by email: Warren.A.Williams.1@gsfc.nasa.gov or by telephone, x1639.

Fiscal New Year’s Party
Instead Of A New Year’s Eve Party
With

Bennett Street Blues Band



October 1
8:30 p.m. til 12:30 a.m.
Bldg. F-3
Champagne, Hats and Noise Makers
Full Breakfast 12:30-1:30 a.m.

\$10 Per Person. Tickets are available from Sandy Gunter, x1454 or Pam Milbourne, x2020.

From FedWeek - Sept. 15
House/Senate Agree on 4.8% Fed Raise

A recent bipartisan House-Senate agreement has resulted in a 4.8% federal pay raise in January. President Clinton will decide how much of the raise will be across-the-board and how much will be allocated by locality. FedWeek has a special section on their homepage (<http://www.fedweek.com>) devoted to the 2000 pay raise status. Click on “Hot Free Info”.

Scholarships Available

Applications for the Federal Employee Education & Assistance (FEEA) Fund’s 2000-01 scholarship program will be available in January 2000. FEEA is a non-profit, non-governmental agency that has provided over \$2.2 million in scholarships (ranging from \$300 to \$1,250) and \$2 million in emergency assistance to civilian federal employees and their families since 1986. For more information, send a self-addressed stamped envelope to: FEEA Scholarships, 8441 W. Bowles Ave. Suite 200, Littleton CO 80123-9501. For more information on no-interest loans and grants provided through FEEA’s Emergency Assistance Program, call FEEA (800) 323-4140.



Mission Success
Starts with Safety

Safety In-Service Day

The Center Director has designated Sept. 23 “Safety In-Service Day” at Wallops. The day is dedicated to raising safety awareness and establishing center-wide safety efforts to reduce and eliminate workplace hazards.

The Programming Guide below is a listing of safety videos that will be shown on Wallops TV (Channel 6) during the day.

The following videos will be shown at 7 a.m., 9 a.m., 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.

7:00	*Wallops Safety Awareness
:16	**Hazard Communication
:32	Personal Protective Equipment
:51	***NASA Safety Reporting System (NSRS)

The following videos will be shown at 8 a.m., 10 a.m., noon, 2 p.m. and 4 p.m.

8:00	Wallops Safety Awareness
:17	****Lockout/Tagout
:26	Barricade Tape
:35	Greenbelt Safety Awareness
:52	NSRS

*Wallops Safety Awareness gives a good overview of the WFF safety process.

**Hazard Communication gives a good overall awareness of what precautions you can take to prevent exposure to workplace chemicals. This video gives a short introduction on precautions when working with chemicals, what to do if exposed to a chemical and how to obtain information on your workplace chemicals.

***Gives a reminder of why we report safety issues and the importance of incident reports and how to actively participate in the NSRS.

****Lockout/Tagout gives a general introduction and awareness to proper lockout/tagout procedures.

Inside Wallops is an official publication of Goddard Space Flight Center and is published by the Wallops Office of Public Affairs, Extension 1584, in the interest of Wallops employees.

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Photography
Printing

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